

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00820 191718Z
ACTION SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4940
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 00820

FOR S/NM AND IO/HDC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, AF
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION FOR FY 1979 INTERNA-
TIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL - AFGHANISTAN

REF: (A) STATE 13027; (B) KABUL 301; (C) 77 STATE 307977;
(D) 77 KABUL 8054

1. MISSION HAS FOLLOWED WITH INTEREST DEPARTMENT/AMEMBASSY
KABUL EXCHANGE REFTELS. AS WE UNDERSTAND ONE OF MAIN
PROBLEMS RAISED, AMEMB KABUL DESIRES U.S. ASSISTANCE TO
NARCOTICS CONTROL EFFORT IN AFGHANISTAN TO BE CHANNELED
THROUGH THE UNFDAC IN ORDER TO KEEP UN OUT AHEAD IN THIS
FIELD, WHILE DEPARTMENT IS CONCERNED THAT AN INCREASE OF
U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO UNFDAC ABOVE THE \$3 MILLION SCHEDULED
FOR 1978 WOULD DRAW SERIOUS CONGRESSIONAL OPPOSITION.
MISSION STRONGLY CONCURS WITH AMEMB KABUL'S APPROACH,
ALTHOUGH IT UNDERSTANDS THE DEPARTMENT'S POSITION. THE
FOLLOWING THOUGHTS ARE OFFERED IN THE SPIRIT OF FINDING A
PATH SATISFACTORY TO ALL PARTIES OUT OF A COMPLEX DILEMMA.

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00820 191718Z

2. THE UNFDAC WAS CREATED IN EARLY 1970'S AT USG INITIATIVE
AS AN INTERNATIONAL MECHANISM FOR COMBATTING DRUG ABUSE.
IN ITS SHORT LIFE IT HAS SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS
TO ITS CREDIT (TURKEY - POPPY STRAW PROGRAM, THAILAND -
CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM, AFGHANISTAN - LAW ENFORCEMENT
PROGRAM), DESPITE THE FACT THAT ITS EFFORTS HAVE OFTEN
BEEN CIRCUMSCRIBED BY LACK OF NON-U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS; A

LACK WHICH THE U.S. COMPENSATED BY BECOMING THE PREPONDERANT (80) DONOR. CONGRESS HAS OBJECTED TO THE U.S. PROVIDING SO LARGE A PROPORTION OF UNFDAC FUNDING AND AS EVIDENCE OF ITS DISPLEASURE IN 1977 REDUCED THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION FOR 1978 TO \$3 MILLION.

3. OVER THE PAST YEAR, HOWEVER, UNFDAC SOLICITATION EFFORTS HAVE RESULTED IN A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN NON-U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH REDUCED THE U.S. PERCENTAGE FOR 1977 TO SLIGHTLY LESS THAN 50. THE NEW MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS WERE ACTING IN RESPONSE TO A NEW THESIS PROMOTED BY THE FUND (AND THE U.S.) TO THE EFFECT THAT DEVELOPMENT AID FUNDS MAY APPROPRIATELY BE UTILIZED FOR NARCOTIC CONTROL PROJECTS HAVING AN INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT ASPECT. OTHER COUNTRIES APPEAR TO BE CONSIDERING WHETHER OR NOT TO ADOPT A POSITION SIMILAR TO THESE NEW MAJOR DONORS. AT THIS TIME ALSO, THE UNFDAC HAS REACHED A POINT WHERE LARGER CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE ESSENTIAL IF IT IS TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN APPLYING ON A LARGER SCALE THE RESULTS OF ITS PILOT PROJECT IN THAILAND, OR IF IT IS TO RESPOND TO THE WISHES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN FOR LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS IN AREAS OF ILLICIT POPPY CULTIVATION. IN ADDITION, A NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HAS BEEN APPOINTED FOR UNFDAC WHOM WE HOPE WILL PROVIDE NEW DYNAMISM BOTH TO PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND FUND SOLICITATION.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 00820 191718Z

4. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE MISSION WOULD SUGGEST THE DEPARTMENT RECONSIDER WHETHER IT WISHES TO REQUEST FOR FY 1979 THE SAME AMOUNT WHICH CONGRESS SELECTED UNDER THE LESS PROMISING CIRCUMSTANCES OF 1977. AGREEING THAT WE CANNOT FORECAST WHAT OTHER CONTRIBUTORS MIGHT DO IN 1978 OR 1979, WE NOTE THAT A RENEWED VOTE OF CONFIDENCE BY THE U.S. WOULD BE HELPFUL TO THE FUND IN CONTINUING THE MOMENTUM OF ITS RECENT CONTRIBUTION DRIVE. THIS MOMENTUM MIGHT EVEN BE ACCELERATED AND CONGRESSIONAL CONCERNS ALLAYED, IF THE U.S. ASKED CONGRESS FOR \$5 MILLION FOR UNFDAC FOR 1979, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE MONEY WOULD ONLY BE DISBURSED TO MATCH NON-USG CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNFDAC, WHETHER EARMARKED OR CONTRIBUTED TO THE GENERAL FUND. BY THIS MEANS WE MIGHT INDUCE FURTHER CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHERS, AND WE WOULD SET A MAXIMUM U.S. PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION AT 50, A FIGURE DEFENSIBLE IN TERMS OF U.S. DRUG ABUSE CONTROL INTERESTS. THE SPUR THIS APPROACH WOULD PROVIDE THE UNFDAC'S FUND SOLICITORS TO EXERT MAXIMUM EFFORTS MIGHT WELL RESULT IN ENOUGH NON-U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS TO LOWER THE U.S. PERCENTAGE EVEN FURTHER.

5. MISSION BELIEVES THAT THIS APPROACH WOULD SATISFY

THE NEEDS OF AMEMB KABUL FOR MONEY TO BE AVAILABLE FOR AFGHAN PROJECT, THE REQUIREMENTS OF CONGRESS FOR LOWER U.S. PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION TO UNFDAC, AND DESIRABILITY FOR UNFDAC TO HAVE ADDED INCENTIVE FOR FUND SOLICITATION. MISSION BELIEVES UNFDAC IS NOW STRONG ENOUGH TO MEET THE CHALLENGE WHICH THIS PROPOSAL ENTAILS.

6. MISSION WOULD WELCOME DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON THIS PROPOSAL. VANDEN HEUVEL

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